



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

NOV 27 2007

Reply To
Attn Of: ORC-158

Mark J. Benson
Vice President, Public Affairs
Potlatch
601 West First Avenue
Suite 1600
Spokane, Washington 99201

Re: Avery Landing, Shoshone County, Idaho

Dear Mr. Benson:

I am writing to respond to your letter dated November 15, 2007 regarding the Avery Landing site in Shoshone County, Idaho. In your letter, you express concern about the possibility of bearing the full cost of cleanup for the Avery Landing site and request an opportunity to meet with me to discuss your concerns.

For the following reasons, I believe that it is premature for me to meet with you regarding the Avery Landing site.

First, EPA has not asked Potlatch to bear the full cost of cleanup, but rather has asked Potlatch to perform an investigation and evaluation of the Avery Landing Site. Additional discussion regarding the performance of the cleanup will be more productive once further information is developed.

Second, EPA has not received sufficient information from Potlatch to evaluate Potlatch's concerns. In a letter dated October 26, 2007, EPA provided Potlatch the opportunity to enter into an Administrative Order to perform an investigation and evaluation of the Avery Landing site. EPA has also requested information from Potlatch. EPA has not received a formal response to either of these letters. These responses are needed to inform further discussions regarding the next steps for conducting the investigation and evaluation.

Third, EPA and Potlatch project teams have not had sufficient information nor opportunity to discuss the concerns raised by Potlatch.

I encourage Potlatch to provide EPA with its response to our request that Potlatch perform an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for the Avery Landing Site by

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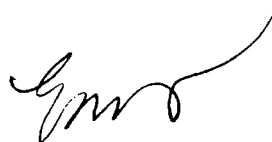
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November 30, 2007. I also encourage Potlatch to respond to our other requests for information.

In anticipation of this information being provided, I suggest that you schedule a meeting in early December with the Director of the Office of Environmental Cleanup, Dan Opalski, to discuss the path forward for conducting the EE/CA and the long-term cleanup. We understand that the meeting could result in Potlatch revising its response regarding performance of an EE/CA. Please contact Candace Smith at (206) 553-6524 for scheduling.

We look forward to working together to ensure that releases from the Avery Landing site are appropriately addressed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elin D. Miller', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Elin D. Miller
Regional Administrator

cc: Toni Hardesty
Kevin Beaton
Pamela Mull